# ADE Educator Retention and Recruitment Taskforce

Dr. Cecilia Johnson, ADE Associate Superintendent Arizona Business and Education Coalition January 29, 2016

#### **Taskforce Members**

- School Districts
  - Tucson, Peoria, Laveen, Phoenix, Creighton, Dysart, Gilbert, Cave Creek, Higley, Lake Havasu, Balsz, Washington, Humboldt, Madison
- Post- Secondary
  - ASU, U of A, GCU, Rio Salado CC, NAU-Yuma, Glendale CC
- ADE

#### **Taskforce Members**

- Stakeholder groups
  - AdvancED
  - Arizona K-12 Center
  - AZ Teach
  - Expect More Arizona
  - GPEMC
  - Rodel Foundation
  - Social Venture Partners of AZ
  - SOS AZ
  - TNTP Teaching Fellows
  - Tucson Values Teachers

#### **Assumptions**

- Arizona's economy cannot flourish without an educated workforce.
- Without an effective teacher in every Arizona classroom and an effective principal in every school, it is unlikely that all other education reform efforts will succeed.

#### Data – Teacher Shortage

- Teachers report leaving for other careers with higher compensation
- In August 2015, 82% of 108 reporting districts noted openings compared to 62% in August 2014.
- 24% of current education workforce is eligible to retire within the next 4 years
- 46% of new teachers leave within 4 years nationally
- 24% of first year and 20% of second year teachers left the profession in Arizona

- Survey data from ASA, ADE, ASRS

#### Data – Economic Impact

- Cave Creek USD
  - FY2014 study showed contribution of 888 jobs and \$58 million in overall economic activity
  - Graduating class of 2014 will earn over \$3 million annually and \$147 million by age 65
  - Graduates of 2014 will have income tax earnings by age 65 of \$4.9 million

- Arizona Rural Policy Institute (2015)

#### Data – Economic Impact (cont.)

- Flagstaff USD
  - FY2011 study showed contribution of nearly 1800 jobs and approximately \$132.3 million in overall economic activity
  - Graduating class of 2011 at Flagstaff's two high schools will earn an additional \$321 million between the ages of 18 and 65
  - Over their working lives, graduates from the past 20 years should earn \$8.5 billion
  - Graduates of 2011 will have income tax earnings by age 65 of \$13.6 million

- Arizona Rural Policy Institute (2015)

#### Data – Economic Impact (cont.)

- Lake Havasu USD
  - FY2014 study showed contribution of 1037 jobs and \$58 million in overall economic activity
  - Graduating class of 2014 will earn \$2.6 million annually and over \$1 billion by age 65
  - Graduates of 2014 will have income tax earnings by age 65 of \$4 million

- Arizona Rural Policy Institute (2015)

#### **Data - Salaries**

- Average beginning Arizona teacher salary is
  - Small district \$31,699 (81/86 districts reporting)
  - Medium district \$32,813 (61/64 districts reporting)
  - Large district \$34,522 (49/50 districts reporting)
- MIT study found
  - office and administrative support \$32,900
  - business and financial \$60,020
  - healthcare \$67,000
  - Architecture and engineering \$72,100
  - legal \$73,210

#### Data – Salaries (cont.)

- National teacher salary average is \$54,000
- Average Arizona teacher salary is \$46,358
- Average teacher salary in:
  - Oregon is \$57,612
  - Washington is \$52,234
  - California is \$69,324
  - Nevada is \$55,957
- Average Phoenix teacher salary is \$47,230
- Average Tucson teacher salary is \$38,240

#### Data – Salary Inflation

	2004*	2013**	% Change
Minimum Wage	\$5.15	<b>\$7.90</b>	53
Psychology	\$25,032	\$37,200	49
Marketing	\$36,071	\$51,900	44
Finance	\$40,596	\$58,100	43
Liberal Arts	\$30,153	\$43,200	43
Nursing	\$37,253	\$52,000	40
<b>Computer Engineering</b>	\$53,117	\$70,300	32
Chemical Engineering	\$52,563	\$66,900	27
Accounting	\$42,045	\$53,500	27
<b>Starting Teacher Salary</b>	\$26,711	\$32,073	20

#### Data – Cost of Teacher Turnover

- U.S. average cost estimated at \$2.2 billion per year
- District cost estimated at \$9,600 per teacher
- High poverty schools experience turnover rate of 20% which is 50% higher than more affluent schools.

- Alliance for Excellent Education, 2014

#### Recommendations – Policymakers

- Publicly acknowledge the value of the teaching profession and the critical need for effective teachers in all Arizona classrooms.
- Increase K-12 funding to address teacher compensation issues and make Arizona competitive in the marketplace.
- **Support the Title 15 review** to reduce the administrative burden on LEAs.

# Recommendations – Parents and Community Members

- Implement **teacher appreciation** and **action coalitions** (e.g., Tucson Values Teachers, Arizona Parent Network).
- **Support educators** 98% of parents are satisfied with their teachers and schools as reported in the 2015 annual Title I surveys on parent satisfaction.
- Speak with **legislators on education issues** (e.g., students have too many substitute teachers).

### Retention Recommendations - Educators

- Commit to building the **best possible work environment** for educators.
- Develop and fund high quality structured induction (sustained, multi-year mentoring) programs for new educators.
- Arrange budget priorities to provide job-embedded, ongoing, focused, relevant professional development for both teachers and principals.
- Provide opportunities for **teacher leadership** without leaving teaching.

## Retention Recommendations - ADE

- Collect and disseminate annual data related to teacher retention
- Provide **technical assistance**, professional development resources and targeted support
  - Principal and aspiring principal programs
  - Teacher leader opportunities
  - Beginning teacher induction and mentoring programs
- Publish state and national best practices
- Collaborate with statewide organizations to publicize outstanding educators to help elevate respect for the profession

## Recruitment Recommendations - Educators

- Review current **salary/benefits packages** understand competition and identify local advantages
- Describe how **educators are supported** throughout their career and what **advancement opportunities** are provided in your district.
- Develop/expand an internal system to "grow your own," including partnering with higher education, and encourage instructional aides and substitute teachers to investigate what would be needed for certification.
- Develop **high school programs** such as Educators Rising to encourage students to evaluate the field of education as they review their options for post-secondary studies.
- Be strategic in **recruitment efforts** advertise on the ADE website, attend career fairs, and form regional consortiums to support recruitment efforts.

#### Recruitment Recommendations - ADE

- Implement an online certification system
- Review and **streamline certification** requirements
- Develop and share a best practices repository
- Track teacher preparation pipeline
- Facilitate dialogue between K-12 and preparation programs to enhance quality preparation
- Research what other states are doing

#### **ERR Task Force Initial Report January 2015**

• <a href="http://www.azed.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/err-initial-report-final.pdf">http://www.azed.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/err-initial-report-final.pdf</a>

#### **ERR Task Force Second Report January 2016**

• <a href="http://www.azed.gov/public-relations/files/2016/01/az-educator-retention-and-recruitment-second-report.pdf">http://www.azed.gov/public-relations/files/2016/01/az-educator-retention-and-recruitment-second-report.pdf</a>